

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Burrillville Rubbish and Recycling Committee held Monday, February 4, 2013 at 6:51 P.M. at the Town Hall Annex, 144 Harrisville Main Street, Harrisville, RI.

Note: This meeting was rescheduled from January 28, 2013 due to inclement weather.

PRESENT: Andrea Hall, Colleen Joubert and Christine Mulligan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robyn Volpini was absent; Cynthia Carlozzi was excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

1. VOTED to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 22, 2012; and dispense with the reading of said minutes.

Motion by Andrea Hall. Seconded by Christine Mulligan. The vote was unanimous by the three members present.

2. Introduction of new member Cynthia Carlozzi

Ms. Carlozzi was excused from the meeting.

3. Discussion/action relative to annual meeting schedule

VOTED to accept the annual meeting schedule for 2013.

Motion by Christine Mulligan. Seconded by Andrea Hall. The vote was unanimous by the three members present.

4. Discussion of recycling/solid waste statistics

Andrea Hall reported that the recycling tonnage continues to rise and solid waste tonnage continues to decrease. Recycling rates: November 32%, December 29%, January 30%. She explained that the decreases in December and January are typical due to the holidays. So far the town has sold 468 overflow bags.

5. Discussion/action relative to upcoming events:

- Earth Day Cleanup - April 20 (Rain Date April 27)**
- EcoDepot and Shred Event - July 27**
- PUD Green Festival**

Andrea Hall stated that she is looking for volunteers to help with these events. Public Works will be assisting with logistics. She is getting quotes for shirts for the Earth Day cleanup and is looking to get bags and gloves donated.

The Green Festival will be held September 14, 2013 at the Stillwater Pavilion and will be a collaboration between Pascoag Utility District (PUD), Public Works, Parks and Recreation and the Farmers' Market.

Andrea Hall is considering a road race and/or a fun run for kids.

Family Fair will also be held at the Pavilion. The Jesse Smith Library and the Farmer's Market will participate.

6. Discussion/action relative to Farmers' Market participation

There was discussion of whether the Committee would participate monthly at the Farmers' Market this year. Andrea Hall stated that instead of regular participation, we could suggest one recycling themed market during the season.

7. Discussion of adding condos, multi-family dwellings and businesses to town recycling program

Andrea Hall stated that this is a complicated issue. She has done research and is meeting with Waste Management to discuss options for businesses to self-pay for recycling pickup. A letter has been drafted to businesses. Christine Mulligan suggested surveying local businesses to find out if they would have an interest in participating in a recycling program.

8. Discussion of recycling of glass by RIRRC

Andrea Hall distributed a copy of new legislation and a statement by RIRRC explaining that ground glass can no longer be used as cover at the landfill.

9. Discussion of adding trash/recycling containers in public areas and at Town events

Andrea Hall is working with Town administration on cost and feasibility of adding containers in public areas, particularly the bike path. She is looking into the possibility of solar compactors. Some matching grant money is available through RIRRC. She stated that there is concern of vandalism and theft. There was discussion of the Committee drafting a letter of support for such a program and the need to hold a special meeting in early March to work on this.

10. Discussion/action relative to forming a “Green Team” to collect litter around town

There was nothing new to report on this item. Christine will find out when the Ashton Court residents meet and if someone from our committee might be able to speak with residents about volunteering for a Green Team.

11. Discussion of Blackstone Valley Waste Analysis

Andrea Hall stated that members of the Advisory Board of Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful did an analysis of trash from residents' waste bins from the towns of Burrillville, North Smithfield, Central Falls, Woonsocket, Cumberland and Smithfield to see what recyclables are still being thrown away. She said it showed that 32% of the combined trash that was surveyed was actually recyclable.

12. Discussion of recycling in schools

- **Collaboration with PUD**
- **Collaboration with RIRRC**
- **Education/Outreach Efforts**

Andrea Hall has been working to get bigger bins in classrooms and signage with graphics for the cafeterias and classrooms.

Andrea is assisting the high school is starting an Environmental Club and she hopes to recruit some students for volunteer efforts. She is also working with PUD to get the schools recognized as Green Ribbon Schools, utilizing energy efficient lighting, recycling and composting. This will be used as a teaching tool for students.

There has not been much response to field trips.

13. Review and discuss items proposed for future meetings

- **Consider a letter of support to Town Administration regarding condo/multi-family/business recycling programs and collection bins in public areas.**
- **A special meeting to discuss the Committee's direction and role in assisting the Recycling Coordinator with her efforts.**

14. VOTED to adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

Motion by Andrea Hall. Seconded by Christine Mulligan. The vote was unanimous by the three members present.

Christine Mulligan, Secretary

Minutes Approved Date:_____